



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Statement by Assemblymember Hector De La Torre**  
**RE: Blue Shield's Grace Period Policy Termination**

**Sacramento, Calif.** -- Once again, Blue Shield has shown they are more concerned about their bottom line than the care and treatment of their patients. By terminating their policy of allowing a grace period they are turning a blind eye to our economy's reality. People are losing jobs, families are struggling and yet at this time, Blue Shield chooses to take away this option. Even more troubling is the fact that they admit a consumer's medical condition will play a role on whether they increase rates or alter a policy. Adding insult to injury, Blue Shield chooses to inform their customers during the holiday season; not much grace at all.

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